GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2856
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
JUDICIAL ENQUIRY COMMISSION REPORT
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Judicial Enquiry Commission has submitted its report on Bagdighi Colliery accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on their recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b): The Court of Inquiry has observed thatthe workings of the Bagdigi Colliery No. 7 seampunctured the waterlogged Jairampur Colliery in the same seam. Survey map prepared after the accident indicated that the workings of Bagdigi Colliery had undergone a variation to the tune of about 35 degrees in directions and thus the workings had proceeded in a totally different direction from the originally projected plan. To avoid recurrence of this type of accident in belowground mines in future, the Court of Inquiry has made following recommendations :

i) dewatering of old workings;
ii) application of latest geophysical methods for probing the barricrs/partings;
iii) change of managerial pattern at the colliery level;
iv) greater authority to the internal safety organization;
v) conducting of periodical check survey;
vi) improvement of surveying organization at mine and Directorate General of Mines Safety;
vii) increasing the frequency of general inspection by Directorate General of Mines Safety officers by improving the existing manpower structure;
viii) greater constructive role of trade unions.

The Agent, Manager, Safety Officer and Assistant Manager of Bagdigi Colliery and the Inspecting Officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under whose jurisdiction the mine fell have been held responsible by the Court of Inquiry.

(c): The report submitted by the Court of Inquiry has been accepted by the Government and it has been published in the Gazette of India. The comments ofthe Ministry of Coal and Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) on the recommendations made in the report have also been called for.